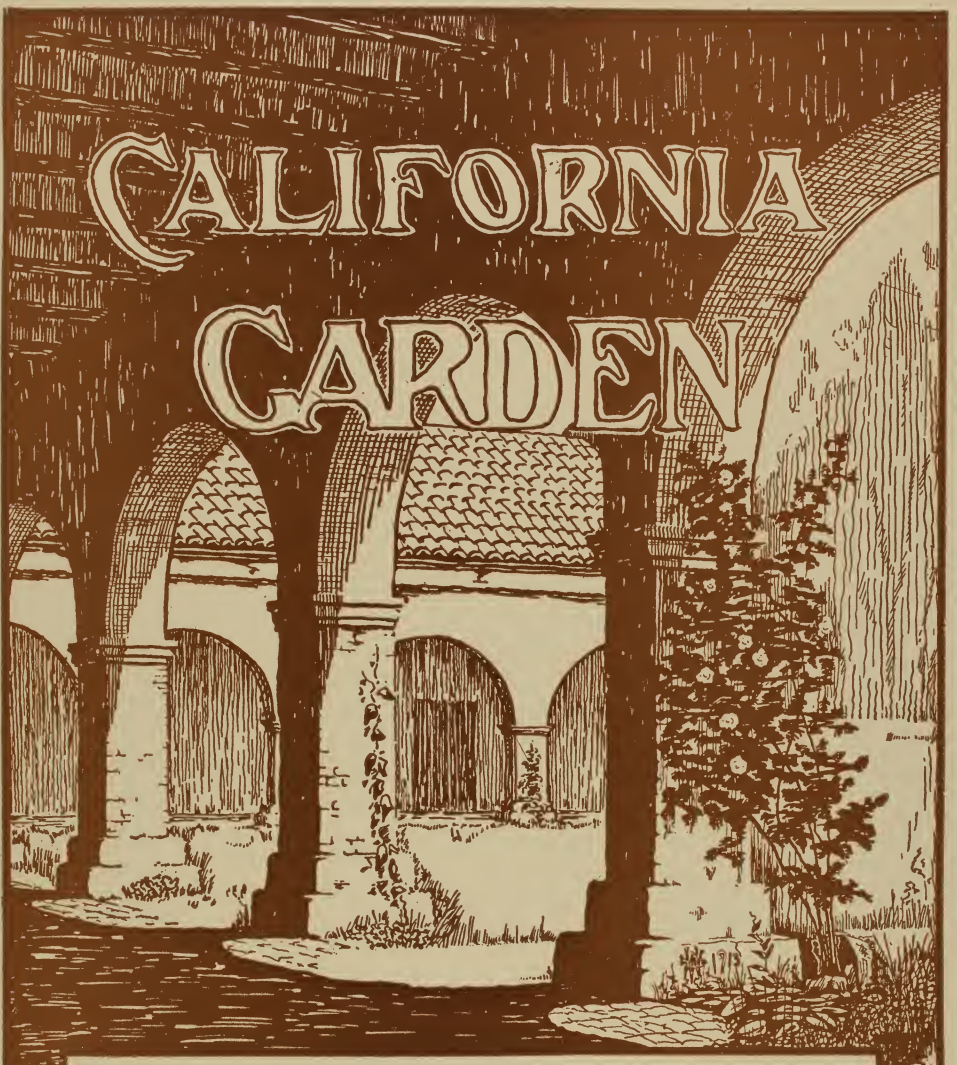
CALIFORNIA GARDEN



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CHAPARRAL SHRUBS IN THE GARDEN
By CHARLES FRANCIS SAUNDERS

Rock Gardens . . . By Charles Gibbs Adams

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A Practical Local Guide published monthly for 20 years

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All interested in garden matters and civic beautification are invited to join. Dues $1.50 per year. Magazine and Membership combined $2.00 per year.

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Chaparral Shrubs in the Garden

By CHARLES FRANCIS SAUNDERS

During the last decade of the eighteenth century and the early years of the nineteenth, while California was still a province of Mexico, a number of exploring expeditions—Spanish, English and Russian—touched at various points along our Pacific coast. With these ships there were naturalists, who made extensive study of the native plants, and in this way was revealed to the scientific and horticultural world of Europe the presence on this coast of a rich and interesting flora up to that time unsuspected. The English, who have long been ardent garden lovers, were particularly impressed with the possibilities of this new field, and in 1824 the London Horticultural Society commissioned a young Scotch botanist and plants man, David Douglas by name, to visit this coast and collect specimens and seeds of such plants as would be suitable for growing in Britain.

Douglas spent several years in Oregon and California, and was followed in succeeding years by other industrious collectors for European institutions and nursery firms. As a result the gardens, parks and rural estates of the milder parts of Europe, especially the British Isles, were stocked with representative trees, shrubs and flowers of California long before most Americans had any conception of their garden worth or, indeed, knew of their existence. From the foreign standpoint they were—and are—exotics and precious accordingly. Today it is surprising to note in any standard publication on plants cultivated in British gardens how much space is given to plants of our California valleys, foothills and mountains. As early as 1825, the California Poppy had become a favorite in England, and is now known in a score of varieties throughout the world. So are Clarkias, Godetias, Baby-blue-eyes, Monkey-flowers, Mariposa-tulips and many more of our native wild flowers that every California child knows and loves. The regal Matilija Poppy, indigenous only in Southern California and the peninsula and declared by the distinguished English horticulturist, William Robinson, to be "the fairest plant that ever came to (Britain) from that country of flowers, California," created a veritable sensation in England when first publicly exhibited there in blossom.

No less famous abroad are many of the native shrubs that make up the chaparral cover of our foothills and mountain slopes, keeping them perpetually green and brightening them in season with colorful flowers and berries. The Christmas-berry or California Holly—second only to the California Poppy in the affections of our people and protected by State law—was introduced into England as long ago as 1790, and for more than a century has been grown in the milder sections of Britain by amateurs of rarities. The Fuchsia-flowered Gooseberry, which blooms throughout the winter in our foothills, has been a denizen of English gardens since 1828, and few sights are more striking than this fine shrub in full flower, the wand-like stems fringed with drooping scarlet corollas and long protruding stamens, resembling delicate fuchsias. The nearly related Flowering Currants in several species, pink, red, or golden yellow, and very charming in flower, are old favorites abroad, as also are the Garryas or Silk-tassel Bushes. The latter are tall evergreen shrubs with a bitter, tonic bark, which pioneers used as a substitute for quinine, and the unique greenish flowers produced in long tassel-like catkins, are both beautiful and curious, with the added attraction of blooming in mid-winter. The familiar Shrubby Mimulus or Monkey-flower, abundant on foothills and canyon slopes, has also had a century-long European career in cultivation, sometimes as a potted plant in greenhouses, as Americans treat the azalea, which the flower greatly resembles. Recently its culture has been taken up by growers on the Atlantic coast, who have given it the name California Sunbeam-flower.

Noteworthy also among California shrubs that are cherished abroad are two that were first brought to light by John C. Fremont, whose keen interest in the wild plants encountered by him on his western expeditions is, I think, not realized by the general public. In the course of every one of his transcontinental expeditions he made extensive collections of the plants of the regions traversed, and in many instances they were plants new to science. Among these was one of the most beautiful of all California shrubs—**Fremontia californica**, and its variety **mexicana.** Mountain folk call it California Slippery Elm, or sometimes Flannel-bush. It covers large areas of the mountain sides in various parts of Central and Southern California, and its splendid lemon-yellow flowers flushed with crimson on the back, are borne in such abundance in late spring as fairly to hide the foliage. A mountain side of it at that season, seen from a distance, seems sheeted with gold, an unforgetable sight. Fremontia was introduced into cultivation in England in 1851, five or six years after Fremont's discovery of it, and it is still grown there. Even better regarded is the other of the

Fremont discoveries referred to, the rare and beautiful **Carpenteria californica.** After Fremont it was lost to the world for nearly thirty years, when it was re-discovered in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada in Fresno county. Seeds were secured by nurserymen and widely distributed to plant lovers. In England it was regarded as one of the most splendid acquisitions from California and has never lost its popularity. Carpenteria has never been found wild anywhere except in that one particular section of the State in Fresno county, an area so limited that one uncontrolled fire might easily destroy every living wild specimen.

No account of our foothill and mountain flora should omit mention of the Madrono, or, as popular speech has shortened the word, Madrone. This beautiful subject is a shrub in Southern California, but in the north it attains the dimensions of a stately forest tree. Its polished crimson bark, flaking off in thin layers and curious quills, and its glossy evergreen foliage suggesting that of a magnolia, make the Madrono a striking feature in the woods at all seasons; while in spring there is the added beauty of flowers like Lilies-of-the-valley, and in autumn the charm of berries like little strawberries, in red and orange. It entered California history very early, having attracted the attention of the Spanish pioneers under Portola in 1769, and from them received the name Madrono, which is the Spanish word for the nearly related European Strawberry-tree. Archibald Menzies of the Vancouver expedition, which was on the Pacific coast 140 years ago, sent specimens of it to England, but it was reserved for the indefatigable Douglas to introduce it into the gardens of the Old World, where it is still esteemed. You will recall it as the subject of one of Bret Harte's best known poems. In Southern California the Modrono is of local occurrence, and the non-botanical, if they note it at all, may mistake it for a species of Manzanita, to which it is closely related.

A characteristic shrub of the chaparral from one end of California to the other is the Ceanothus or Mountain Lilac. There are at least thirty species native to the State, and in one variety or another their dainty blossoms film the hills with blue, lavender and white from January to June. So common and showy a shrub could not fail to attract the notice of the early plant explorers, and beginning with Douglas all the European collectors of the first half of the nineteenth century had a hand in introducing one species after another into cultivation abroad. A peculiarity of many species of Mountain Lilac, perhaps of all, is the presence of a saponaceous principle in foliage, flower and green seed-vessel; so that if they are rubbed up in water a lather quickly is formed that is as cleansing as soap.

Of the same family with the Mountain Lilacs is the familiar Coffee-berry, **Rhamnus californica,** the **cascara sagrada** or sacred bark of the Spanish Californians. Its value as a gentle laxative medicine was first learned by the Spanish missionaries from their Indian converts, and regard for it is now world wide. In Central and Southern California the plant occurs as a shrub of the chaparral, but farther north it is found as a good-sized tree and treated by most botanists as a distinct species. Both tree and shrub, however, are alike in the medicinal properties of the bark. The shrubby form is evergreen, with handsome, full-veined leaves, and in autumn is particularly noticeable, for at that season the bushes are loaded with berries that are remarkable for their variety of color. Often on the same bush green, yellow, red, purple and even black berries occur at the same time. The ornamental character of the shrub caught the eyes of the early collectors for English gardens and it has long held a place there.

And now in these latter days, after so many years of neglect at home and high regard abroad, our native shrubs (largely through the patient effort of one Los Angeles nurseryman), are gaining recognition in the gardens of California, where, aside from considerations of beauty, their perfect adaptability to our climatic conditions renders them especially worth while. Besides the species already mentioned, there are many others that adapt themselves readily to garden life in the State of their nativity. Among these are the Wild Cherries, of several species, some of the Manzanitas, the Greasewood or **Adenostoma,** whose multitudinous blossoms sheet as with snow many mountain slopes of late spring and early summer, and two or three species of Sumac.

It cannot be too strongly stressed that the fame of California's native trees, shrubs and herbaceous wild flowers is world-wide. To a very large extent they are of species not found growing wild in any other part of our country or anywhere else in the world. It is a beneficent and enlightened policy on the part of our Government, Federal and State, that has led to the setting aside of extensive areas—national forests and national and State parks—where these plants may flourish undisturbed in their native environment for the perpetual benefit and free enjoyment of all the people. It would seem to be a reasonable obligation laid upon us who are the beneficiaries of these unique natural gardens, to observe the public ordinances designed to protect them, and so cooperate in keeping them safe from despoilation and from the devastation of fire.

THE ACRIMONIOUS ANT

Go to the sluggard you ants!
Consider his ways and be wise;
Your way of hurried expanse
Makes trouble where ever it hies.

I don't like the perfume you use,
How you get in the ice box is "funny,"
You make us the victuals refuse,
And you do not taste nice in the honey.

You multiply pests in my garden,
The aphis and scale are your care,
So without begging your pardon,
I shall pour distillate into your lair.

When out doors reading romantics,
Or listening the song of a bird,
You're the cause of my frantic antics,
And sayings that shouldn't be heard.

Your actions inspire these lays,
All blame for them on you lies;
The more I consider your ways
The less I consider them wise.

—Gray Goose

Rock Gardens

An Address before the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

By CHARLES GIBBS ADAMS, Landscape Architect

To the absorbing topic of Rock Gardens we can now devote less than an hour; yet a day would not be long enough to give thought to all its problems.

At least one meeting should be dedicated to study of matters of mere mechanics and efficiency; neglect of such study has left many a rock garden hereabout a very poor affair. Matters of art and good design, and simple beauty deserve another full meeting.

No one has a right to display ugly things masquerading as art. That very crime has well nigh worked the ruin of lovely Southern California; for we have let outsiders come in here and insult our eyes with "Spanish" houses with inch-thick walls of biscuit dough or pie crust; and profane our gardens with warring combinations of blood red geraniums or poinsettias with magenta-flowered bougainvillea vines. To burn in stoves and fireplaces, they have murdered noble Oaks that took five and six hundred years to grow; they have slaughtered the old Pepper Trees and Eucalypti that comforted our highways, just to lay strips of concrete that often might have gone around them quite as well; they have built straight roads up and down our hills, where curves would have been more beautiful and more comfortable as well; they have scarred our mountain sides with cuts and fills; they have stolen the precious Cacti of our deserts and sold them into slavery and death. They have robbed our hills and cliffs of their succulents and "air plants;" and pulled our wild flowers up by the roots.

It is our duty, then, to lead the way in the preservation and in the creation of beauty. Putting our minds and hearts and souls to work, an earnest group like this can be a power; nay, already is a power.

But I wander; for you ask now about that one form of beauty, the Rock Garden, in our own "line."

If these pitiful synthetic golf courses all about have accomplished nothing else, they have shown us what crimes not to commit against art, in the matter of rockeries and rock gardens.

Imagine, in this land of abundant and most beautiful rocks, the use of imitation boulders of cement! Nothing bogus ever was good or ever will be! Further, just imagine those rustic fences and summerhouses of tree logs made of concrete! And when they do use real rock, imagine their white washing them or painting them raspberry pink and nigger blue! Imagine their building half domes, standing in the air and called "grottoes," of pink and yellow stone, even though real, combined with hunks of green glass! Imagine nice white Colonial rose arches in the middle of cactus gardens. But such things are all on parade; and they are an insult to the public.

Nor have the owners of private estates been guiltless. On no less famous estate than Mr. Huntington's, the magnificent cactus collection was first planted on the shores of a lake, looking very unhappy indeed. But that fine artist, our own Mr. Hertrich, finally rescued it.

When we laid out the Kellogg Arabian Horse Ranch, and had the pleasure of making the extensive Aloe Garden there, the minute I was off the place, the gardeners rushed in and filled the bare spots, left for growth, with nice juicy snapdragons and stocks. You may be sure they came out in a hurry.

Speaking of that Aloe Garden, it is a significant fact that, although it was but six years ago, such a thing as that planting of Aloes, Yuccas, Cotyledons, Mesembryanthemums, etc., was an absolute novelty, hardly ever heard of. Now it is nothing uncommon, except in size, thanks to the "Cactus craze" and the splendid work of the society.

Let us get to the mere mechanics of the rock garden, whether it be a rockery, or a succulent garden under trees, or one of those English planted dry walls that are such a delight.

Almost always the first requisite is good drainage, so often ignored with disastrous result. Such is easily achieved with a good bottom layer of rock, not too coarse, and preferably separated from the upper soil with a layer of sand.

The second requisite, except where the planting is to be of cactus, which are seldom heavy feeders, is good rich soil, with plenty of humus. That is easily supplied with generous use of, preferably, leaf mould, or peat and peat moss.

Where the Rock Garden is simply a rockery, it should not be one of those unnatural structures, we see, a dome of thick-set stones, and likely hard round arroyo rocks at that; planted with a confused and varied "collection." Let us study how nature makes her rockeries, in broad, low irregular mounds, studded with groups of stones, and softened with masses of but a few varieties of plants, preferably largely succulents.

Where the Rock Garden is a dry wall, let it have a generous batter, or backward slant, and ample pockets for the plants. If you think it should be unnecessary for me to dwell upon the need—both for art and for safety—of having the larger stones at the base, and diminishing their size toward the top, just look around and see how frequently that simple law of good taste and good sense, too, is violated.

Where the Rock Garden is but a bit of woodland scenery brought in to beautify the space under garden trees, let the rocks, again, be scattered naturalistically; and choose them for the beauty of the lichens or mosses they carry; and plant them with such happy growths as ferns and bluebells and begonias, and all such things they use so beautifully in England. It is easy enough to give them artificial rain with the sprinkler system we have so efficiently developed in California.

On the other hand, where the Rock Garden is

made as the setting for a Cactus collection, let it resemble as much as possible a stretch of desert transplanted; and let it have a surface, at least, of good desert sand, for reasons of both beauty and business.

How silly a Cactus Garden looks set in a lush green lawn, or against a Colonial house! Yet I know more than a dozen of each such pitiful mistakes, hereabout.

In any of these types of Rock Garden, let us employ the beautiful rough tan and dull yellow and brown stones so abundant in the region, and shun the sparkling white ones that belong in quarries only; and, especially the hard, cold, round, gray granite arroyo stones, that belong in river washes and nowhere else.

There is only one thing worse than a rockery of those; and that is one of our Calfornia cobble stone walls, well cemented and left unplanted. There is no worse "art."

The prime reason for so many disappointments in the plantings of Rock Gardens—and, for that matter, in gardens in general, is the failure to select plants for any one collection that require about the same amount of water. In that matter, the succulents, usually, are much more accommodating to mix with foreigners than are the Cacti. For instance, most of them will prosper well along with such flowery beauties as the English spice pinks, blue nepetas, Mexican primroses, lopezias, etc. If you do not feel convinced, look at the dry wall of the Crane estate on Linda Vista Avenue, in Pasadena, where I have a stretch of several hundred feet of them, all fraternizing happily, and blooming merrily.

That same wall illustrates well, also, my point of planting not too thickly; for when all the stone becomes hidden, half the charm is lost.

(Speaking of water, let me add here that through warm months Cacti will stand a great deal more water than is commonly believed, and if they get it, there is much more growth. That fact is the prime reason for the amazing growth in Mr. Orpet's great collection at Santa Barbara. But they must not have wet feet in the cold months.)

Let us begin to realize that a great many succulents thrive well in shade. And let us bear in mind that no class of plants can give us such variety in foliage colors as they do—not in sickly yellows like the freaky Golden Privet—but beautiful silver grays like the Dudleyas and Cotyledons, rose color like some of the Sedum tips and Echeveria Metallica, bronze like Sempervivum Arboreum Atropurperum, and so on. Beside, the conventional designs in their leaf groupings are not equalled in any other group of plants.

The Mexicans, who know them best, have a collective name for the whole race, that tells in a word the story of their most accommodating trait: "Semprevivas," the "everliving."

STRAY THOUGHTS

Gardenias! After twenty years' experience with, and observation of this family of plants the less I know about them. Once upon a time I traveled through southeastern Texas, expecting to meet with flowers of G. Jasminoides for sale at the railroad depots. At San Antonio I got two. Surely, I thought that New Orleans florists' windows would be full of them. For two days I searched in vain to find a single bloom. Then to Florida. In only one locality did I find plants; a half dozen —only that and nothing more. When in Honolulu I discovered that the plants do not do well until one reaches an altitude of about 800 feet above sea level. Several years ago I met with a fine specimen of G. Thunbergia in Santa Barbara. Got cuttings of the plant, and now in the Wernigk Botanic Garden are two fine specimens over four feet high; one growing in full sun the other in partial shade; the latter a barren plant, the other bore a few flowers last season.

At the Coolidge Nursery in Pasadena what I believe to be G. Veitchii, grown in the open, blooms fairly well. This species, if it is a species, has been given a trial in the above named garden with unsatisfactory results. Years ago, Franceschi of Santa Barbara introduced G. Rothmannia, a native of South Africa. The late Frank J. Hart of Sierra Madre got two plants and from them seeds were obtained and given to Beverly Hills Nursery for propagation. It is strictly evergreen, the foliage dark green, glossy and dense. Dwarf in habit, it would make a fine hedge plant, requiring little pruning to keep within bounds. The peculiarity of this species is that the flowers are insignificant, borne atop a seed pod, the size of an egg. They are indehiscent, remain on the plant for a year, and are its chief attraction, on account of the pretty light gray color. Bailey says it does not bloom in California. This is an error.

Fuchsias! I've been reading what the "Fans" have been saying of these shrubs. They—the Fuchsias, not the "Fans"—have broken away from the original type to such an extent that few species are found in our gardens. F. arborescens is one of the few. Syringaeflora is the old specific name for this tree, for such it will grow to be, if given a chance. Some day we shall be wise enough to grow it for street trees where large trees may not be grown on account of their tops interfering with public utility wires. Always in bloom, though the flowers are not spectacular in appearance; a dull magenta. F. excorticata, native of New Zealand is said to attain to 30-40 feet high. Why has this species not been introduced to our gardens? F. procumbens, a native of the same country, is a trailing species, the flowers a peculiar shade of green and yellow followed by brilliant red berries. Grown as a tub plant, trained on a trellis, it is a very attractive subject. To make the plants most attractive they must be severely pruned annually, then they are a veritable fountain of foliage and of flowers. The double type are so grotesque in appearance that they have lost all of the beauty of the family. F. triphylla is a pretty dwarf species, with the unique habit of suckering freely, indeed so freely that the young plants must be treated as weeds—which are plants growing where not wanted. The flowers, cinebcinnebar-red, harmonize beautifully with the color of the foliage, which is different from all others. In very truth there is no discordant note in the symphony of colors in nature. The Master Artist never makes any mistakes in His work.

PETER D. BARNHART.

NATIVE ROCK GARDEN PLANTS

San Diego County is blessed with many native plants suitable for the rock garden. A few of the succulents are Dudleyii pulverenta with its strap like leaves all covered with grey powder and its several cousins of the D. lancelota type with the thick fleshy lance shaped leaves. Each different locality in the county seems to have its own type but whether the differences are due to different environment and will disappear under cultivation is not definitely known although I am growing several under the same conditions to test them out.

On North Coronado Island are two Dudleyiis which are distinct from our mainland forms. D. densiflora with thick fleshy green leaves of the lancelota type and a similar one with powdered leaves. These are so close to San Diego that they can be considered natives. North Coronado Island has a beautiful sedum and there are several in the county but as I have not tested them as yet will not say anything about them.

The common Stylophyllum edule, is so called because the thick pencil leaves are edible and were used by the Indians as greens. This succulent is much finer under cultivation and has much larger flower heads. There are also several coast and island forms which generally have smaller pencil leaves.

Of the non-succulents which I have tested, the best by far is the desert or beach primrose, Oenothera spirala, which is a day bloomer and under cultivation seems to be an everbloomer, very graceful and beautiful. Its two beach companions Abronia villosa, Beach Sand Verbena and A. maritima, Purple Sand Verbena do well under cultivation and when growing with the beach primrose make Southern California's favorite color combination, purple and gold. Nothing could be lovelier than the Silver Strand in the spring time with its carpet of silver and gold like a rare old Persian rug.

The above merely touches the fringe of the suitable plants for rock gardens but will serve to show what wonderful opportunities we have to develop our own peculiar rock gardens which can easily be made different from anything else in the country.

Other plants which should be tested are scarlet bugler, Indian paint brush, mariposa lily, coffee fern, tea fern, fairy mat and a host of other plants and shrubs.

Fred H. Wylie.

NOTICE OF JULY MEETING

The July meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will be held in the Association clubhouse in Balboa Park, Tuesday evening, July 19th, at 7:30 P. M. The speaker of the evening, Mr. Lewis A. Walmsley, will have for his topic "Trees." Mr. Walmsley, now of the Soledad Rock and Water Gardens of Pacific Beach, formerly was connected with public park work in an executive capacity and has recently been appointed a member of the committee on "City Forestry and Arboriculture" of the American Institute of Park Executives.

SARCODES SANGUINEA SNOW PLANT

The Generic name of this very beautiful, and very remarkable member of the Heath Family: Ericaceae, is from the Greek (sarix, flesh; and oeides, resembling). Its habitat is in the high mountain ranges of the coast, never below 4,000 feet, and up to 8,000 feet elevation. Beautiful is the correct name for it when it appears during the months of April and May, and brightens the landscape with its bright crimson colored stems, which are without leaves. Nor does it wait until all the snow is gone to put in an appearance; hence the name Snow Plant. Several years ago it was my privilege to camp in the forest of Big Bear Lake in San Bernardino Mountains. I had read that it was a parasite on the roots of forest trees. Jepson says it is a "saprophytic herb," i. e., living upon dead organic matter and thus destitute of chlorophyl, the green color of plant life. I found it growing on knolls from which rain had washed all leaves, and the soil a sandy clay only a foot deep. Again I met with it in depressions of the hills where the soil was of decomposed granite and leaf mould. The next question was to find out about the root system. To do so the plants were approached by digging the ground a foot away from the plant and as deeply below its base. In one instance the hole was only a foot deep, in another instance I had to dig four feet; in both cases the earth was carefully removed with my fingers, that there might not be any disturbance of the body of the plant or of its root system if it had any. In neither case did I find the base of the plant in contact with the roots of trees, neither did I find any roots on any plant. The base of the plant is composed of small bulbils, not scales as is the case with Lilies, the aggregate collection about the size of a baseball, the nucleus of four stout stems, that were two feet long before their awl-like tops appeared above the surface of the soil. I am inclined to think it an annual. A plant dug with a large ball of earth, and carefully transplanted to my garden grew vigorously, bloomed profusely, seeded freely, then died. If some enthusiast, with time and money to spare, will go into those mountain heights for a year and conduct experiments with this puzzle of plant life and give us definite information of seed germination, the length of its life, from the time it begins, to its end, we all shall be grateful for the information.

PETER D. BARNHART.

KATE O. SESSIONS, PIONEER

To California's responsive soil
She gives unstintingly of the great power
Of mind, the warmth of heart, that are her dower.
Early and late, year in, year out, her toil
Is consecrated warfare, meant to foil
Old Nature's purpose to postpone the hour
When all the Golden State shall be a bower
Of loveliness no elements can spoil.

Long after she has winged her gallant flight
To heaven's gardens, this beloved place
Will hold her flower-children's children dear,
While they in turn will seemingly delight
To add to their adopted home a grace
In proud remembrance of a pioneer.

La Jolla, 1932 —Emma Johnson

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

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Silas B. Osborn

Associate Editor
Walter S. Merrill

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GARDEN TOURS ARE PLANNED

Mrs. Sherman Hoyt of Pasadena, national chairman of the committee on conservation of natural flora, has been appointed the official chairman of garden tours for southern California during the Olympic games in Los Angeles.

She was in San Diego this week and invited the San Diego Floral association to co-operate with the committee by organizing a series of garden tours in San Diego in August.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president of the association, has appointed a large committee to assist in the plans which will be announced later.

In view of this important event the Floral association urges that the beautiful gardens of San Diego be at their best so that the whole community will benefit thereby.

—S. D. Union.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Frank W. Mott, San Diego.

Mrs. Margaret Arnold, San Diego.

Mrs. J. F. Binnie, San Diego.

THE AGAVE AND ALOE GARDEN

The work undertaken by the San Diego Floral Association to establish a garden in Balboa Park for a collection of aloes and agaves, the plan for which has been made by Miss Kate Sessions, is at last to begin. The surveying and staking of the paths and the laying of water pipes will be completed before the end of July. The long delay has been caused by the building of two roads in the east side of the tract. The roads join and pass beneath the street car trestle, pass around a sloping hill and down to the valley below. This road was planned for in the Nolen Plan for future improvements in the Park. The employment of men without work made this development possible now.

The sloping east sides of the aloe garden down to the road bed will be planted to a collection of mesembryanthemums and should make a very interesting feature for the road. Some are winter bloomers. a few everbloomers and most of the varieties are summer bloomers. The great variety of form and color, for there are some 400 known species, makes this class of plants a very interesting one and particularly adapted to our dry seasons and our coastal location.

It is anticipated that the selection of plants for this planting will be very generous from many sections of the state and from Mexico, the agaves in particular, of which there are about 160 species are natives of Mexico. The agave has very sharp spines in the ends of each leaf and they are more desirable for a park, in large spaces than for a home garden. They are very decorative however, and only bloom once after they are several or many years old. This will be the first attempt to gather a full collection, and will be more interesting and valuable each year.

REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the San Diego Floral Association was held in the club rooms in Balboa park on Tuesday, June 21. Mrs. Mary A. Greer, president, called for reports from committees. There has been a regular meeting of the Association on the third Tuesday of each month and the program committee has provided fine speakers for each program. The number of garden visits has been unusually large and the Association is grateful to the owners of the gardens for the courtesies extended.

The first large event of the year was the Fall Flower Show in August, 1931. This was followed November 7 and 8 by a two day Chrysanthemum Tea held in the club rooms and introducing to the public the plan for the famous Kate Sessions Agave and Aloe Garden to be planted in Balboa park. November 19, the house committee gave their annual card party where as usual the prizes were beautiful blooming plants of gay cyclamen.

The December meeting is one of the happiest memories of the year with the display of beautiful berried shrubs, a practical talk and demonstration on the art of pruning roses by Milton Sessions, a gay living Xmas tree, Xmas carols, gifts of potted plants to each person present and the delicious refreshments served by the house committee.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Robin-

son who gave the Association the privilege of using his beautiful display of Wisteria for their benefit, a week of most profitable teas were held in the lath gardens of Mr. Robinson on Point Loma. Visitors from all over the world registered in the guest book and all were delighted with the wonderful effect of the large spreading wisteria vine so carefully trained by Mr. Robinson over his begonia gardens which themselves are famous throughout the world. Next came the charming garden party given by Mrs. Herbert Evans as a benefit to assist in the planting of the Sessions Aloe and Agave gardens in the park. Mrs. Evans was assisted by Miss Kate Sessions, who spoke not only about her plan for the park planting, but in her inimitable manner pointed out the rare and beautiful plantings in Mrs. Evans garden.

Then came the crowning event of the year in the Spring Flower show. The attendance was unusually large and it is evident that the pleasure of seeing and hearing about beautiful flowers is particularly welcome in these troubled times.

Mrs. Mary E. Ward, secretary, gave a complete financial report and submitted the treasurer's report in the absence of John Bakkers.

Paul V. Tuttle, a member of the Garden Contest committee reported that twenty-five gardens were visited by Mrs. John Burnham, chairman of the committee, Paul V. Tuttle and the judges F. W. James and H. K. Marshall. Every garden but one made a score and the competition will be keen at the final judging in the Fall.

.The Iris section was reported by the chairman Mrs. Paul Tuttle, who told of the display entered in the Encinitas Flower show in February and the large section in the Spring show of the San Diego Floral Association.

Mrs. Greer complimented the House committee upon the fine work hey have done throughout the year.

New business called for the nomination of members for the board of directors and the present board was unanimously elected to continue for the coming year.

At the request of many friends of Mrs. Greer, Mrs. Tuttle paid a sincere tribute of appreciation for the fine leadership displayed by her during the years it has been the good fortune of the Association to have her as their president. The speaker for the evening was A. B. Clayton, who has collected a wonderful lot of color photograph slides of California flowers. Mr. Clayton imports these plates from Germany and France and has developed this new art in a most noteworthy manner. Particularly appealing were his views of desert wild flowers and his plea for the preservation of the same. It was an entertainment never to be forgotten and we hope to have the privilege of hearing him again and seeing the pictures many times.

Miss Kate Sessions then gave an enjoyable talk on the many fine specimen plants on display. The house commitee served punch and cakes during the social hour. And so ended the most successful and happy year in the history of the San Diego Floral Association with the promise for a bright and happy year to come. C. B. T.

JULY WEATHER IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Dean Blake, Meteorologist.

The outstanding feature of the weather in the San Diego littoral in July is the temperature equability. On two days only has the thermometer recorded temperatures above 90 deg. at the Weather Bureau station—100 deg. on July 30, 1930, and 93 deg. on July 14, 1911, and even 80 deg. is not at all common. To be sure, higher temperatures prevail back from the coast, where 100 deg. may be expected several times each month, particularly in the valleys, but in the mountains the weather is usually mild and dry.

Summers are long and dry, except for an occasional thunderstorm in the higher elevations. The records show that only 25 of the 81 Julys since 1850 have a measurable amount of rain to their credit, yet some of the stations in the mountains frequently report the greatest total for the month on the Pacific slope.

Near the ocean, the nights and mornings are characterized by overcast skies, but after ten a. m. skies usually clear rapidly and remain so until sunset. It is this protecting stratum of clouds and moist air that is responsible for our small range in temperature. Winds come from the ocean over most of the county, and velocities are light at night and moderate during the day. Strong winds never blow in the summer.

Naturally, with the winds on-shore the humidity on the coast is quite high, but in the interior almost desert conditions obtain.

THE ENGLISH PLANTAIN— A SERIOUS PEST

A very persistent weed has developed rapidly in the lawns of Mt. Hope and adjacent cemetery plots. It is commonly known as the narrow leaf plantain, Plantago lanceolata. There is also a broader leaf plantain that is quite common in the lawns about the city.

They both have deep and heavy roots and where their tops are cut off with a hoe they readily sprout and grow again. Only by digging out the root entirely or cutting off several inches, 4 to 5, below the surface is the plant destroyed. The narrow leaf variety makes very fine seeds that blow so it is a serious matter to allow seeds to form, and already it is well located in places outside of the lawns and its seed is being distributed. There is a preparation of calcium chloride that will kill it completely. Sprinkled upon the plant or made into a strong solution. If only a few plants occur on a lot, each plant could be treated separately, but if in large or abundant patches, then the whole must be treated and the lawn grass would also be killed, in a short time that could be replaced by some new soil and freshly seeded. This weed is becoming so serious at the cemetery that its destruction is a necessity that must command the attention of the County Horticultural Commissioner and the city authorities.

This weed has become a serious pest in many parts of central and northern California, and its control established by constant plowing and thorough hoeing and by weed killing solutions of which there are many. K. O. SESSIONS.

THE GARDEN POOL

Bertha M. Thomas

Our water lilies will be at the best of their blooming season during the next three months, and if anyone knows of any possessor of a water garden who does not grow more enthusiastic each day and wish it was larger, well, they have not sent in their vote.

One of the newer lilies we have is the Leviathan. It is rightly named and a deep pink, 8 inches across and very similar to its aristocratic relative, Mrs. Richmond, which is superior in only one particular, that of being a little more double, and the Leviathan balances that little fact by being a more prolific bloomer, and does not reach so far into your pocketbook.

A lovely delicate little rose pink is one of the Ladykers especially adapted to small pools, which is true of all this family.

The double white Gonnera proved such a marvelous blossom that we sent for its companion, a double pink named Wilfon Gonnera, and another double pink named Temple-sur-Lot, but they seem to again prove the rule that double flowering plants are more shy in blooming, which makes them all the more highly prized when they do bloom.

In the sunset shades we find Aurora and Chrysanta, handsome, dainty little ones, particularly good for small pools. Commanch, Paul Harriot, Indiana and Sioux are much larger and are very prolific.

Among yellows the would-be aristocrat, Sunrise, will grow enormous leaves and sulphur colored blossoms nearly a foot in diameter, the leaves are also very heavy texture and a beautiful red flush on under side. The flowers rise above the water, being cup-shape and the petals pointed and crepe-like.

During late years, the blue lilies have crashed the gates of society and quickly became favorites. The old favorite, Panama Pacific, has not thus far been surpassed for size, rich coloring, free and late blooming. Blue Triumph will always keep pace with her beautiful shade of color, and the strong spicy fragrance of the 12-inch blossoms. Mrs. Whittaker is equally large with the color a heavenly blue. All the blue, along with all other tropicals, have really only one fault, they protest against transplanting in early spring and are almost sure to die. The one exception to this is the Star family, all of whom become entirely dormant, hence the hard black bulb can be easily replanted during the early season, at which time we find it so much more convenient to clean pools and replant. There has never been a small blue lily catalogued, hence I am pleased that among my Blue Triumph seedlings I have one lavender-blue and one medium blue, each about 1½-inch diameter. Also one of medium size with petals of the mother color and sepals a rich purple. Two other seedlings are also proving to be viviparous, which is not a characteristic of the Triumph. Up to date the viviparous ones have been Panama Pacific, August Koch, Amethyst and Mrs. Wilson.

Tropical lilies are more prone to seed than the hardy ones. If you find the little white winged seed floating in your pool some morning, gather it before nature exercises her rule and drops it to the bottom of the pool, which will happen in a few hours.

Use any container of three or four-inch depth, pack firmly with good garden soil and on this press the lily seed. Sprinkle very lightly with sand and submerge to about two inches. If your seed is fertile, the little plants will appear in 20 to 30 days. When the third leaf appears, transplant to thumb pots. Commercially, raising from seed is not advisable except that one will sometimes get new varieties.

If aphis bother your lilies, hose frequently and they will probably be drowned or eaten by the fish, or spray leaves with following: One cubic inch laundry soap dissolved in quart of water, add 1-3 pint kerosene, beat to a cream with egg beater and add five gallons of water. If the latter is used it is advisable to later overflow the pool to get the mixture off the top of the water, for protection of your fish.

The pool should be in full sun for best results for lilies. Lath house pools give good results if the covering is not too closely spaced. There will not be as many blooms or leaves and not quite so large, but with proper care one gets full satisfaction. Water lilies are very adaptable to any situation and will do the best they can under any condition, but denied sun and fertilizer, they refuse to give anything but leaves. Water Lettuce, Poppy, Violet, Clover, Porcupine Grass, Pondeteria and Hawthorne do well in lath house pools.

BLOEM ERF,
BANHOEK,
STELLENBOSCH,
SOUTH AFRICA.

9th May, 1932.

The Editor,
California Garden.

Dear Sir:

I was very much interested to read in the March number of the "California Garden", Miss K. O. Sessions' notes on a "new Gladiolus".

The early flowering form of Gladiolus tristis, which is possibly the type, is certainly very attractive because of the extreme delicacy of its appearance. I saw it once growing from a carpet of the blue flowered annual daisy Charieis heterophylla, and the effect was charming—by itself it is somewhat colourless.

The later flowering variety—now known as a distinct species G. aestivalis, is, to my mind, quite as good, being usually 4 ft. high. Sometimes more, with 10-20 blooms open at a time, and these again are variously coloured in browns and maroons on the outside of the segments, it also is very sweet scented at night. This is more useful in hybridizing as the typical G. tristis is apt to be over before any of the garden hybrids are in bloom—but this spring I obtained two very nice hybrids, one G. tristic X G. alatus, and the other G. tristis X G. hirsutus, both charmingly coloured and scented, although there are many folk who tell us that the Gladiolus will never have both colour and scent.

Hoping these notes may be of interest to your readers.

Yours truly,

K. C. Stamford.

HEDGES

I have just sold a man a flat of privet for a hedge and as I have a special aversion to privet in a hedge, I feel like saying something about hedges in general. It will relieve my mind, and should anything helpful or constructive result, well, that will be all right, too.

Hedges, we know, are planted for various reasons. They may be designed as windbreaks, as party lines, as conventional tie-ups with other plantings, as spite-fences, or just hedges. Something to sort of polish off the job, one might say. It would seem, then, that there might be a good deal of diversity in the plants used. But is there? I leave it to you.

I believe it would be safe to say that of every ten hedges built eight of them are made of Privet, Eugenia or Monterey Cypress. This is not as it should be. Privet, it seems to me, should be left mainly to those sections of the country that are handicapped in the matter of variety. It is not particularly attractive and unless handled most carefully is certain to be an eye-sore during the winter months. It is said that much of its disheveled and disconsolate look may be obviated if it be trimmed closely in early autumn. I do not know. Then Eugenia: This number seems to have an ever growing army of admirers. And I would be the last to deny its beauty and suitability when it is well grown and well kept, and when it is used where it seems to fit in. Marle in the soil is deadly on Eugenias, and a hedge planted in such soil is a constant source of annoyance to its owner and everyone else. The lovely, lush appearance is always lackling and "the sere and yellow leaf" describes it accurately. It is sick with a mortal illness and finally it dies. At its best it is handsome, if well cared for and properly nourished.

As for Monterey Cypress, I don't seem to be able to think up anything nice to say about it. True, it has its uses. Windbreaks and that sort of thing. But why put a hedge of Cupressus **macrocarpa** close to your dwelling if there is one other subject you might have chosen? It invariably becomes coarse and ugly as it ages. If there is a bit of dust in the air it will find a haven in your cypress hedge and will not easily be dislodged. It will be brown and dusty and sad looking a good deal of the time, even in its so-called prime, and when it is old it will be too dejected looking for words. At that, I like a nice Monterey cypress as well as anyone if it is in its proper place, growing freely in whatever direction it fancies. But not in a hedge.

The Monterey Cypress has another bad quality, I believe. It lends itself too readily to the experimenting shears of the imaginative pruner. Its owner is apt to return from a week-end in the mountains to find that a whole flock of ducks and dinosaurs has hatched out on top of the hedge in her absence, and there they will perch until time lends them pinfeathers and they fly away or dissolve gradually and ungracefully into their native element. No, I don't much like cypress hedges.

Having disposed of the famous trio, I would like to mention a few of the things that might be planted appropriately, but seldom are. First, however, I shall speak of the unwisdom of using the formal type of hedge on country places of informal character. Here is a good place to make use of the diversified shrub type of hedge, and if your shrubs are chosen with a little knowledge and some imagination, you will surely be able to achieve an effect that is wholly consonant with your somewhat unconventional surroundings and is at the same time a thing of striking beauty. This sort of hedge is equally good in the city, if there be sufficient room to let it have its own way to some extent. No trimming or coercion should be indulged in except in the most discriminating manner.

Now for some of the things that might be used instead of the Big Three.

One that I have in mind is Crassula Arboresens. Most of you, I am sure, are familiar with this Crassula. Indeed, it is so common as to be almost despised with us here, but no plant will serve you so well in a hedge that is in full sun and not too good soil as will this one. It will thrive on a minimum of water and inferior soil, and I have yet to learn that it is subject to any pest infestations. It will fill beautifully from the bottom if a little attention be given to its beginnings, such as snipping back top and side growth to keep new breaks low on the stalk. And it is no stingy grower, either. You won't have to wait long for a planting of this to make a dog-tight fence. (They will hop over it for a few years.) And it is fine appearing in all weather.

Then there is another succulent equally good in a hedge. This is Portulacaria Afra. The past winter has shown this one to be a little sensitive to cold, but you will agree with me that this is a minor consideration here. It is of a different habit than C. arborescens, but of the same fleshy type of growth and is equally indifferent to privations. Both of them, however, are like the rest of us, in that they do their best if they have a little kindly treatment. They will, if permitted, reach a height of ten feet or more, and with judicious trimming will be very good to look at and satisfactory in every other sense, at the same time taking you away from the stereotyped hedge.

One other shrub that promises well for the somewhat low and formal hedge is Geranium **jerusalem.** This Geranium, according to Miss Kate Sessions, is an ideal subject for the hedge that is different. It is not at all Geranium-like in appearance, but grows tall and straight, its branches reaching up and hugging the main stem very much after the manner of a particularly well behaved Italian cypress. It is very fragrant, the leaves exuding a strong lemon scent. I should like to see this plant in a hedge.

To these add Myrtus **microphylla** or Myrtus **microphylla compacta,** Abelia, Rapheolepis, Rosemarinus, many of the Pyracanthas and Cotoneasters, Carrissa Grandiflora, Prunus integrifolia, Laurustinus, Lantana, Leptospermum, Tamarix, Nandina, some Pittosporums, and we have branched out quite a little from the famous three, leaving a long list still to choose from.

If every person about to build a hedge would endeavor to select a plant that is not to be found in any other hedge in his neighborhood, he would add a great deal to the beauty of his community, as well as giving himself the pleasure of having something quite unlike the all too common type of hedge so prevalent today.

MRS. HOWARD W. JOHNSON,
7380 El Cajon Ave.,
La Mesa, California.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers

CALIFORNIA TREES TO BE FEATURE OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

"To stimulate interest in trees as a characteristic feature of the California landscape, and to encourage their preservation; to perpetuate through outstanding examples of photographic art something of the beauty and spiritual appeal of trees, whether standing as individuals or massed in forests" is the purpose of a photographic competition to be held under the joint auspices of The California Conservation Committee of The Garden Club of America and the Save-the-Redwoods League, according to an announcement made today by these two organizations. Entries will be received up to September 7th, and an exhibit of the photographs will be on view at the M. H. de Young Memorial museum in Golden Gate park from September 21st until October 21st, the awards to be made on Friday, October 7th.

As an example of the esthetic and spiritual appeal of trees which it is hoped the competition will call forth, the following excerpt from a chapter on the redwoods in his book: "The Living Past" by Dr. John C. Merriam, president of the Save-the-Redwoods League, is quoted in the announcement:

> "Like pillars of a temple, the giant columns space themselves with mutual support, producing unity and not mere symmetry. Ponderous strength, an almost infinite variety in expression of light and shade and color, and a perspective with marvelously changing depth, compose a scene such as canvas has yet to receive. But woven through this picture is an element which eludes the imagery of art. The sense of time makes itself felt as it can but rarely be experienced. While, through contrasts of their seemingly fantastic architecture, ancient castles may tell us of other ages, living trees like these connect us by hand touch with all the centuries they have known."

The awards, which are to be donated by the Save-the-Redwoods League, are: First, $100; second, $75; third, $50; and fourth, $25. Other prizes will be announced later.

Regulations governing the competition are as follows.

1. ELIGIBILITY: The competition is open to any person, amateur or professional, without restriction.

2. SUBJECT: Any photograph of trees growing in California. Details of trees, individual specimens or forest views.

3. SIZE AND FINISH: Any size and finish of print. **Must be mounted on mat 14 inches wide by 19 inches high.**

4. IDENTIFICATION: The photograph may be signed, with full name and address given on back of photograph, or if preferred may be identified by a symbol, and the name and address in a sealed envelope identified by this symbol may be submitted with the photograph.

5. OWNERSHIP OF NEGATIVES AND PRINTS: No prints will be returned. A selection of the views will be incorporated in a traveling exhibit of photographs of trees, under the auspices of The Garden Club of America.

RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

CUT FLOWERS
Flower Designs

1115 Fourth Ave. San Diego

6. DATE OF SUBMISSION: Up to September 7th, 1932.

7. HOW TO ENTER PRINTS IN THE COMPETITION: Deliver or mail them to the M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, addressed to "California Trees Photographic Competition."

The jury selected to pass upon photographic entries is Dr. John C. Merriam, president, Save-the-Redwoods League; Mrs. Duncan McDuffie, chairman, California Conservation Committee. The Garden Club of America; Mr. Eugen Neuhaus, department of art, University of California; Mr. Lloyd La Page Rollins, director, M. H. de Young Memorial Museum; Mr. Karl A. Baumgaertel, chairman pictorial department, California Camera Club; Dr. Willis L. Jepson, author of "The Silva of California"; and Mr. Noel Sullivan, former director, San Francisco Art Association.

ESTABLISHING CREEPING BENT-GRASS LAWNS

By G. F. Wood-Smith

Many have heard and read about Creeping Bent-Lawns grown from stolens; fortunately (may we say) few have had the experience in caring and nursing these delicate but most beautiful lawns. There are many trade names for Creeping Bent such as Washington, Flossmore, Metropolitan, and others, each representing a finer or courser strain.

As its name implies, it spreads by sending out

runners, which when covered with soil, take root. To plant from stolens means to take the sod or plant, chop fine, and immediately, while it is green, strew it over a carefully-raked bed, covering it with a light coat of fine soil and watering continuously to keep the stolens from drying and dying. A sandy soil must be enriched with humus, as the soil must be able to hold moisture; otherwise a hot sun will burn the lawn, as Creeping Bent will not grow again, like Blue Grass. In a few weeks, after planting Creeping Bent, it will green up in patches and must be kept moist and free of weeds. It will quickly spread and cover the ground with a beautiful mat of fine grass.

Bent Grass seems to grow weaker as it grows older, due presumably to the root-mat growing thicker each year. It has to be aerated with a spiked roller from time to time.

To keep the lawn in good condition, it must be cut often during the growing season, and well-watered. On account of the continuous mowing, fertility four or six times a year must be returned to the soil; humus in a light coating; a top-dressing of fine earth with sulphate of ammonia.

Early in Spring, and at intervals throughout the year, arsenate of lead is applied to kill the cutworms and other worms which eat the roots; applied in the form of dusting, or by mixing it in a top dressing of fine soil, scattering it widespread by hand, lightly over the lawn and working it into the roots by dragging a flexible steel foot scraper over the lawn, and finish by rolling. Water must be applied immediately otherwise a hot sun on the undissolved chemicals will burn the lawn.

The objection to a Creeping Bent lawn is the care and expense required to maintain it. The root system is matted and thin; air is unable to get to the roots and on a warm damp night followed by an early rising sun the lawn becomes covered with "brown patch" (a fungus disease) and if it is not eradicated immediately by spraying with calomel, (mercurous chloride) the lawn may die within a week. The material for this spray is very costly.

Creeping Bent Lawns grow best in cool climates, although Canada has suffered this year wih brown patch.—Flower Grower.

FLORIDA WILD LIFE

By CHARLES T. SIMPSON

(The Macmillan Co., 1932; $2.50)

Charles Torrey Simpson is now an old man, but when he writes of the Lower Florida he so passionately loves, the fire of youth still animates his pen. As in several preceding volumes the thread of his narrative runs through divers subjects—plants, general natural history, gardens of the more naturalistic type, personal exploration and adventure—all characteristically interwoven as no one else could possibly have done for this remarkable region. "Civilization" has laid a heavy hand on south Florida, far heavier and far more disastrously in many respects than even with us here. A good deal is lost forever, but preservation of something of the ancient glory in the pages of books is far better than no preservation at all. Simpson's very extremity of devotion to the land he loves leads him to deal with the consequences of real estate promotion and other forms of boastful booming in no uncertain terms. Every such book as this is destined to accomplish its bit in the eventual rescue of many a priceless natural monument, wherever and however it may find itself endangered. Scatter it far enough and somewhere the good seed will fall on ready soil. The final chapter, "In Memoriam" is to be recommended to everyone, whether already able to appreciate the value of this fair world as its Creator made it, or able to learn that appreciation. The book is most interestingly illustrated.

S. S. B.

ANNUALS IN THE GARDEN

By H. STUART ORTLOFF

(The MacMillan Co., 1932; $1.25)

Here the author of "Perennial Gardens" issues a companion volume dealing with annuals. Holding that gardens of annuals often meet a real and definite need, he not only discusses their use by themselves, but also as fillers among perennials, as brighteners of bare spots in the rock-garden, for use in window boxes, and for succession upon early flowering bulbs. The importance of annuals for landscape effect is stressed and directions for their successful cultivation and care outlined in a succession of short chapters. Biennials are included in the scope of the treatment as being essentially annuals from the cultural point of view. "Annual Gardening," says the author, "has this great advantage: if the first attempt is not an unqualified success we can try again the next season, for winter wipes clean the garden and offers us a fresh page to draw upon in the spring, a condition not possible with perrenials." He reminds us of the advantage offered by annuals to the renter, who so often wishes a garden but is unable to look forward to a permanent one. Yet even the annual garden, he admonishes, should be as subject to care in design and execution as any other. A table of pronunciations of plant names, added like an after-thought at the end of the book, is none too consistent in treatment and can be quarreled with successfully on a number of counts. S. S. B.

THE JOHNSON NURSERY
OF LA MESA
Choice and Unusual Plants
Including
NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS
7380 El Cajon Avenue

AMERICAN NATIVE ASTERS

American hardy wild asters — Michaelmas daisies, starwort, frost flowers, farewell summer, swasweed—by whichever name we chose to call them, had to be cultivated by English horticulturists before their native country, where roadsides and woodlands, fields, prairies and banks of waterways are made glorious every fall by the 120 different species of this lovely native flower, began to appreciate them.

The English gardeners were keenly aware of the decorative garden possibilities of this charming flower, and through their experiments with them we have today many handsome named varieties.

Hardy asters are very easy to grow and every garden should have some of them. Most of them are tall growing and behind lower growing perennials make an admirable background with their lacelike branches of many-rayed flowers. They adapt themselves easily to nearly any situation or soil.

The blue-purple asters are charming with old rose zinnias or deep orange calendulas. The rosy purples are lovely placed with white ageratum and pale pink Japanese anemones. The blue-lavenders hobnob well with crimson Japanese anemones. The white ones are a delight anywhere. The named varieties of course are most desirable, but when gardeners must budget their expenses closely lovely wild Michaelmas daisies, which will grace any garden, may be transplanted from the fields or the woodlands and once established will take care of themselves.

One of the two most striking varieties of our large family of native hardy asters is the New England aster (Novae Angliae), which blooms in September and October, and may be found by the roadsides and along streams throughout most of the United States. Among its named varieties Barr pink is one of the best. The other striking variety is the New York (Aster Novibelgi), which has smoother and daintier foliage than the New England aster. Among named varieties of this aster Climax, growing from 4 to 6 feet tall, producing quite large flowers of lavender-blue in September and October, is very desirable.

Great Britain, although it has cultivated many American species, has only one native aster—Aster Tripolium or sea starwort as it is called. The one starwort of Italy is Aster Amellus. The Swiss species is Aster Alpinium, suitable for rock gardens.

The hardy aster genus is one of the peculiar glories of the American countryside. For those whose garden funds are limited and where gardens do not boast a force of workmen, native plant material is invaluable. Effective use of many of our charming native hardy asters will add greatly to the beauty of the simplest home garden. L. S. M.

(Christian Science Monitor)

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1931-1932

(Ending June 21st, 1932)

RECEIPTS—		
Balance on hand June 18, 1931		$ 99.77
Receipts received since,		
Memberships	$ 642.00	
Subscribers	272.81	
Advertisements	176.75	
Sales	19.95	
Mrs. Lawson for Miss Sessions	25.00	
Flower Shows	1,161.05	
Card Party	33.00	
Cash Donations	30.00	
Loan from Bank	294.75	
Sale of Book	2.25	$2,657.56
		$2,757.33
DISBURSEMENTS—		
Expense for flower shows	$ 353.39	
Current expense including loan	807.36	
Publication of magazine	1,668.65	
Miss Sessions' garden	25.00	
Expense monthly meetings	27.14	
Subscriptions to magazines	11.23	
P. O. Box rent	1.50	
Secretary's Book	4.50	$2,898.97
Deficit		$ 141.64

MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	$15.00	Half Page	$ 7.50
Quarter Page	3.75	Eighth Page	2.00

Advertising Copy should be in by the 1st of each month.

From Geraniums to Orchids

Even a Layman Knows that is Quite a Jump

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